

reflective matrix integrated within the spectral filter in order to improve contrast. For example, by extending the green, red (G,R) section of layer 60 under the blue, green B,G section of layer 70 and under the Blue (B) section of layer 70 all the colors are reflected from the overlap portion, reflecting white light and transmitting nothing so that the overlapping portion appears black. Similarly, the red (R) pixel in layer 60 is extended under the blue, green (B,G) pixel in layer 70, a totally reflective black matrix is created at the overlapped portion. Using this architecture a black matrix is produced.

[0337] FIG. 26 shows another stack of layers for producing colored light from both polarized and/or unpolarized white light 201, similar to the stack in FIG. 25. The stack in FIG. 26 has left handed cholesteric liquid crystals in layers 60 and 70 and right handed cholesteric liquid crystals in layer 65 and 75. Although FIG. 26 shows the stack producing a black matrix, it is understood from FIGS. 11 and 13 that stack in FIG. 26 can produce colored light with or without a black matrix for all the incident polarizations.

[0338] FIG. 12A shows a reflective filter display 130 having two layers. The first layer is a top layer 115 for having three sub-pixels, a sub-pixel 113 for reflecting blue, green, a sub-pixel 117 for reflecting blue and a clear isotropic sub-pixel 114. The second layer is a bottom layer 125 having three sub-pixels, a sub-pixel 121 for reflecting red, green, a sub-pixel 127 for reflecting red and a clear isotropic sub-pixel 124. To make left handed reflective cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer 115 reflecting blue, green in sub-pixel 113, blue in sub-pixel 117 and having a clear sub-pixel 113, first, prepare a bottom substrate 110 of PVA (polyvinyl alcohol) coated glass, by buffing it in one direction. Then, prepare a top substrate 112 of PET (Mylar D) by buffing it in any direction.

[0339] Mix a left handed CLC polymer comprising blue polysiloxane, such as that sold by Wacker Chemical Company of Germany as SLM 90032, 47.5% by weight, a left handed CLC polymer comprising blue polysiloxane, such as that sold by Wacker Chemical Company of Germany as SLM 90031, 19.1% by weight, with a low molecular weight nematic liquid crystal, such as that sold by EMI Company of Germany as (E44, EMI): 32.1% by weight. Then add a chiral dopant such as (S1011) sold by EMI and photo initiator (IG184) sold by Ciba-Geigy of U.S.A., 0.35% of the polymers. The above materials should be mixed at 120° C. and de-gassed in a vacuum for 20 minutes at 90° C.

[0340] The mixture is then coated onto the PVA coated glass bottom substrate 110 with the use of a knife coater. The coating is preferably about 8-12 microns thick. The coating temperature and the gap of the knife coater can be used to vary the thickness of the coating as applied.

[0341] The mixture is then laminated with the PET top substrate 112 using a laminator. The temperature and the gap between the rollers of the laminator will effect the final thickness of the film.

[0342] To make a CLC film with blue, green sub-pixel 113, blue sub-pixel 117 and clear sub-pixel 113 in layer 115, the layer 115 is heated at 75° C. with the PET substrate 112 up, the heating is preferably done on a hot plate.

[0343] With the layer 115 at 75° C. it is preferably mechanically sheared to align the liquid crystal molecules.

Mechanical shearing provides a tangential mechanical force which helps align the liquid crystal molecules between substrates 110 and 112 in layer 115.

[0344] With layer 115 still on the hot plate or still heated to 75° C., apply a mask to the top substrate layer 112 having the PET material. The mask will vary in size and shape depending on the use of the layer. For use in color displays the mask will be the size and shape of pixels used in the display. In the layer shown in FIG. 3 the display uses two layers with three sub-pixels, two being reflective color filter portions per layer. Architectures for such displays are disclosed in the applicants' copending application attorney docket number PA1100 entitled "Cholesteric Liquid Crystal Reflective Color Filter Architectures", which is hereby made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference.

[0345] A mask is applied to block the sub-pixels of the layer 115 to be the blue, green sub-pixel 113 and the clear sub-pixel 114 leaving exposed the blue sub-pixel 117.

[0346] While still at 75° C. layer 115 is then exposed to UV light of 360 nm at 0.1 mW/cm² intensity for approximately 20 seconds to polymerize the exposed cholesteric liquid crystals in the blue sub-pixel 117 of layer 115. While still at 75° C. layer 115 is further exposed at 75° C. with a collimated UV of about 360 nm at another intensity of about 10 mW/cm² for about 30 seconds.

[0347] While still at 75° C. the mask blocking the blue, green sub-pixel 113 is removed and layer 115 is exposed to UV light 360 nm at 0.1 mW/cm² for approximately 40 seconds to polymerize the blue, green sub-pixel 113 of layer 115 with the desired bandwidth.

[0348] While still at 75° C. layer 115 is further exposed at 75° C. with a collimated UV of about 360 nm at another intensity of about 10 mW/cm² for about 30 seconds.

[0349] The mask is then totally removed exposing all of layer 115.

[0350] The temperature is raised to 150° C. to polymerize the clear isotropic phase sub-pixel 114.

[0351] Maintaining 150° C. layer 115 is then exposed to UV light of 360 nm at 20 mW/cm² for approximately 30 seconds to set the polymers.

[0352] The PET substrate 112 is then removed. Layer 115 is now ready for installation in a display or for other use.

[0353] To make left handed reflective cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer 125 reflecting red, green broadband light in sub-pixel 121, red in sub-pixel 127 and having a clear isotropic sub-pixel 124, first, prepare a bottom substrate 120 of PVA (polyvinyl alcohol) coated glass, by buffing it in one direction. Then, prepare a top substrate 122 of PET (Mylar D) by buffing it in any direction.

[0354] Mix a left handed CLC polymer comprising blue polysiloxane, such as that sold by Wacker Chemical Company of Germany as SLM 90032, 63% by weight, with a low molecular weight nematic liquid crystal, such as that sold by EMI Company of Germany as (E44, EMI): 28.6% by weight. Then add a low molecular nematic liquid crystal such as (TEB30) sold by SLICHEM of China, 8.4% by weight, and photo initiator (IG184, CibaGeigy), 0.35% of the liquid crystal polymer. The above materials are mixed at 120° C. and de-gassed in a vacuum for 20 minutes at 90° C.